

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF CANADA FOR FRESH/FROZEN
BOVINE EMBRYOS EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

PART A. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. No person shall import bovine embryos into Canada from the United States unless he/she does so under and in accordance with a permit issued by the Minister to ensure:
 - i) that such embryos have been collected and processed by approved and supervised embryo collection teams;
 - ii) that the embryos have been obtained from animals utilizing recognized procedures such that the risk of spread of animal disease is eliminated;
 - iii) that the embryos have been collected, processed, stored and transported in accordance with procedures which preserve their health status; and,
 - iv) that the embryos are accompanied during transport to Canada by an export health certificate of an official veterinarian from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in order to confirm that these obligations have been fulfilled.
2. The import permit referred to above shall remain in force for a period of three (3) months from the date of issue.
3. Bovine embryos being imported into Canada must be accompanied by an official export health certificate in English or French issued by a full-time salaried veterinarian of the USDA or an official export certificate issued by a veterinarian approved by the USDA and endorsed by an official salaried veterinarian of the USDA that clearly identifies:
 - i) The import permit number, the name of the exporting country and the name of the issuing authority;
 - ii) the identification of the donor animals including:
 - a) the registered name, registration number and breed of the sire and the dam;
 - b) the date of insemination;
 - c) the date of the collection;
 - d) the number of embryos;
 - e) the identification/markings of straws or ampoules; and,
 - f) the number/markings of the official seal on the shipping container.
 - iii) the origin of the embryos including:
 - a) the name and full address of the consignor;
 - b) the address of the collection premises; and,
 - c) the identification of the embryo transfer business involved in the collection and processing of the embryos to be exported to Canada.
 - iv) the consignment description including:
 - a) the total number of straws;

- b) the serial number of the shipping container; and,
- c) the number/markings of the approved, tamperproof seal on the shipping container;

- v) the destination of the embryos including the full name and address of the consignee.

NOTE: The export health certificate to be used is included in these requirements.

4. The embryos must be exported directly to Canada from the country in which they were collected without having been exported to any other country.
5. Embryos must enter Canada at an inspection port in a container bearing an unbroken tamperproof seal of the government of the country of export.
6. The embryos must be stored within the sealed container in ampoules, straws or other receptacles that are marked in a permanent manner with:
 - i) the date of collection of the embryos;
 - ii) the breed of the sire and dam and the registered name and number of the animal from which the embryos were collected; and,
 - iii) the identity of the embryo transfer business involved in the collection and processing of the embryos.
7. No person shall remove animal embryos imported into Canada from an inspection port except:
 - a) in a container bearing an unbroken tamperproof seal of the government of the country of origin; and
 - b) to a designated receiving center approved by the Minister.
8. No person shall import animal embryos into Canada that are contaminated by bacteria, virus or any other micro-organism capable of introducing disease in animals.
9. Bovine embryos resulting from in-vitro fertilization or embryos which have been subjected to sexing, splitting (twinning), cloning or any manipulation which interferes with or violates the integrity of the zona pellucida are not eligible for entry into Canada under the terms of these permits.
- 10.. Where the person importing the embryos fails to comply with any of the above conditions or the embryos are found not to be from the animal source described in the health certificate accompanying the consignment to Canada, an inspector may order the person having the possession, care or custody of the animal embryos imported into Canada to destroy them, return them to the country of origin or deal with them in such other manner as the inspector may specify.

Health Certificate No. _____
(Valid only if the USDA Veterinary
Seal Appears over the Certificate No.)

ZOO-SANITARY CERTIFICATE
BOVINE EMBRYOS

Country of Origin: United States of America
Issuing Authority: United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and
Plant Health Inspection Service
Import permit number: _____

SECTION 1 - ORIGIN

1. Name of Consignor: _____
2. Address of Consignor: _____
3. Address of Collection
Premises _____
4. Name and Address of
Embryo Transfer Business _____
(involved in collection _____
and processing of embryos _____
to be exported to Canada) _____

SECTION II - DESTINATION

1. Name of Consignee: _____
Address: _____

SECTION III - DONOR SCHEDULE

	<u>Registered Name</u>	<u>Registration Number</u>	<u>Eartag/Tattoo</u>	<u>Breed</u>
SIRE:	_____	_____	_____	_____
DAM:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Date(s) of Insemination	_____			
Date(s) of Collection	_____			
Number of Embryos	_____			
Identification/Markings of Straws	_____			
Serial Number of Official Seal on Shipping Container	_____			

SECTION IV - HEALTH INFORMATION

1. The embryos being exported to Canada were conceived in the United States of America from donor females which had been:

*i) born and reared in the United States; OR

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- *ii) imported into the United States from Canada; OR
- *iii) imported into the United States from a country other than Canada and had been continuously resident in the United States for a minimum of sixty (60) days following completion of any post entry restriction or quarantine requirements, prior to commencement of collection of embryos destined to Canada.

*DELETE OR SPECIFY AS APPROPRIATE

2. The embryos were conceived as a result of:

- *i) Artificial insemination with semen, collected from a donor bull at an approved Artificial Insemination Center, which complies with the requirements of semen to be exported to Canada; OR
- *ii) Natural or artificial insemination with semen from a donor bull which has been tested immediately following service or semen collection to satisfy the conditions for importation of a bovine into Canada from the United States; OR
- *iii) Artificial insemination with semen legally imported into the United States and released without restriction; OR
- *iv) Artificial insemination with semen collected from a donor bull at an approved artificial insemination center in the United States which is eligible for domestic use in that country based on its compliance with federal and state requirements;

*DELETE OR SPECIFY AS APPROPRIATE

- 3. The donor dam (and donor sire in the case of natural service) was inspected by a veterinarian immediately prior to collection and found to be free from communicable disease.
- 4. The embryos were collected on a premises which is not under any restriction or quarantine by State or Federal authorities with respect to the presence of infectious or contagious diseases.
- 5. The herd of origin is officially free of tuberculosis and brucellosis and the following diseases have not been confirmed to exist in the herd of origin during the 3 months preceding embryo collection: leptospirosis, bovine viral diarrhea, campylobacteriosis, trichomoniasis, and paratuberculosis.
- 6. Only federally approved antibiotics, hormonal substances or sera were used at all stages of the collection and processing procedures. All components, fluids and media of animal origin used in any stage of the collection, processing, freezing process or in the transport media were sterilized by approved methods according to the IETS Manual and handled in such a manner as to ensure that the sterility was maintained.
- 7. The embryos were examined, washed, treated and placed in identified, sterile containers in either a permanent or mobile laboratory physically separated from animals and protected against rodents and insects.

8. The embryos were either:

- *(i) collected, washed, treated and processed in accordance with the protocol prescribed by the International Zoo Sanitary Code, Appendix 4.2.3.1 by an Embryo Transfer Team under the supervision of a team veterinarian officially approved under the E.E.C. guidelines by the United States Department of Agriculture or certified by the American Embryo Transfer Association; OR
- *(ii) were collected from a dam which has been tested within the period of thirty (30) days prior to collection or within ninety (90) days post collection with negative results for
 - (a) brucellosis;
 - (b) bluetongue;
 - (c) tuberculosis; and,
 - (d) anaplasmosis.

*DELETE OR SPECIFY AS APPROPRIATE

9. The embryos were examined, washed and treated prior to freezing in the following manner:

- a) the embryos were transferred through five washes of sterile phosphate buffered saline without Ca^{++} and Mg^{++} containing antibiotics and 0.4% bovine serum albumin;
- b) the embryos were then exposed to two washes of 0.25% trypsin, pH 7.6-7.8, for a total trypsin exposure time of 60-90 seconds;
- c) following trypsin treatment, the embryos were transferred through five washes of phosphate buffered saline containing Ca^{++} and Mg^{++} as well as antibiotics and 2% serum;
- d) a fresh sterile micropipette was used to transfer the embryos through each of the ten washes and two trypsin treatments;
- e) after each transfer, the embryos were gently agitated before being moved to the next solution;
- f) each wash constituted a one hundred fold dilution of the previous wash;
- g) only ten or fewer embryos from a donor were washed and trypsin treated together and only embryos from the same donor were washed and trypsin treated together.

10. The embryo was examined over its entire surface at not less than 50X magnification and found to be intact and free of adherent material prior to freezing or shipment.

11. The embryos were placed in straws/ampoules which were indelibly labelled in accordance with the norms of the International Embryo Transfer Society Manual with the date of collection, identification of donor dam and sire, number of embryos, and identification of the embryo collection

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team.

12. The embryo is contained in a shipping container which has been sealed with an approved, tamperproof seal and the serial number or markings of the seal were recorded on the health certificate.
13. All equipment used to collect, handle, wash, freeze or store the embryos for export to Canada was disinfected or sterilized prior to use or new, disposable equipment was utilized.

Date

Signature of USDA accredited veterinarian

Official Veterinary Officer of the United States
Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health
Inspection Service

U.S.D.A. Official Seal/Stamp